

Corruption in Russia: absolute evil or necessity?

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The number of "corruption" points the previous (28), and moved up the table provided by the sharp downward movement in other countries. For example, Kazakhstan and Iran, who last year with Russia 133-th line, this year has moved to 140th and 145-th position respectively. The degree of public sector corruption in Kazakhstan, according to the compilers of the rating, increased by two points (now 26), and in Iran - three (25). The scale by which Transparency International estimates the corruption of power in this or that country, extends from zero (officials absolutely corrupt) to 100 (almost sinless). The leader of this year, as in the past, Denmark, scored 91 points. On the opposite end of the scale - Afghanistan, North Korea and Somalia. They share the 175-s - last - place with eight points each country. "Corruption in the public sector remains one of the biggest challenges, especially political parties, police and the judicial system", - say the authors of the report.

As for Russia, here and without ratings of the majority of the population it is clear that corruption has reached enormous proportions. The last few years, anti-corruption slogans sound not only on opposition rallies, but high political stands. In the past year, according to the Judicial Department under the Supreme court of Russia on the day it was taken out of 16 and a half against corrupt officials. Total number of convicted persons for the year amounted to 6014 people. No need to be an expert of the Judicial Department to assume that the number of persons convicted for corruption in times less than the number of remaining unpunished. Some researchers believe that the detection of such crimes in Russia is from 1% to 5%. If you recognize these estimates are adequate, it will turn out that every year in the country there are millions of corruption crimes. This is indirectly confirmed by numerous public opinion polls, when the question of whether you had to give a bribe, more than half of respondents answered affirmatively.

Here the main question is: if Russians EN masse give and take bribes - and moreover, sometimes even I don't see anything wrong, then maybe bribes to perform in Russia and other developing countries with transition economies and unstable social institutes, design features, and not only negative? For example, an American sociologist and political scientist Samuel Huntington that explored including the problem of corruption, came to the conclusion that sometimes it can hardly be described as absolute evil. The fact is, he explains that the social groups who do not have the possibility of influencing the authorities at the expense of corruption have the same opportunity. In the case of full coverage of corruption channels offended these classes would the radical opposition. And there is not far to the forcible displacement of the ruling regime. It turns out that in those countries where political institutions are weak, supported by some no social stability (although it forever be supported thus may not).

"Completely eradicate corruption impossible: because it is deeply rooted in social practice, and because of its borders are not clear. Where is the end of the bribe and begins gratitude? For many it's a subtle point," says head of analytical Department of the Fund "Public opinion" Gregory Cartman.

In 2010 he Press conducted a study of the market of household corruption in the country: its scope were impressive 5.8 billion dollars in annual terms. The problem is, says Cartman that often corruption is understood by citizens it as corrupt. "Remuneration to the doctor in a public hospital, probably, from the point of view of the law is clearly corruption. But as a social fact " it is not perceived neither one nor the other side," he said. A number of surveys have revealed an interesting detail, says Cartman: the Russians are not afraid of punishment

for bribery. As the reason of rejection of corruption, they are often referred to as a sense of shame or unwillingness to break the law.

While agreeing that domestic corruption plays a role of a "grease", which are driven broken institutions, sociologist, however, does not see this "side" function positive content. Even less inclined to idealize the constructive role of corruption Chairman of the movement "For fair market" Ilya Handrikov. Try the terminology is "flirt" with corruption, he said, is dangerous in the conditions when the country could be on the brink of total disaster". "Entrepreneur really put in difficult conditions. It is forced to accept the rules of the game: pay contingent of 500 rubles and live. But paying \$ 500, you have, in fact, included in this game, can result in the future, loss of business, flats, houses," warns the human rights activist.

The more so since 2000, according to his observations, in Russia there is a kind of monetary devaluation of corruption: this key does not open all the doors. Previously, if a business really had something to buy, now, when the powers that be have the desire to put an end to the history of the company, no money will help.

To struggle with this phenomenon, respondents say Bi-bi-si experts, it is impossible only through stricter laws and the accepted state programs and plans. Sociologist Vladimir Rinsky of the INDEM Foundation in an interview to BBC Russian service has reminded, that in Russia already hard law: corruption is a crime, while several other countries for certain acts of corruption character provided only to administrative liability.

He criticized the recent initiative of the Deputy of the state Duma Irina Yarovaya, who proposed to introduce into the criminal code, a "corruption crime".

"Most importantly, why it will be ineffective - because the right is not legal methods of struggle with corruption and not the toughening of punishment, and exception conditions of corruption", - says Roman.

Bureaucratic methods of combating corruption really is almost useless, and sometimes exacerbate the situation, confirms sociologist Gregory Cartman. He cites the example of public procurement.

"Sometimes one or another office thinks not of the nature of the contract and that, and find him, the chamber then in the contract of something reprehensible. And in the end, officials are guided by a principle: it is better to do nothing than to do something for that you can fall for some suspicion," says the expert.

"To fight corruption is possible only through simplification of procedures and transparency. Where you receive e-turn, cease to give bribes in order to jump the queue", he summed up.